

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Takaaki TOYOOKA et al.  
Appl. No.: Group:  
Filed: February 13, 2002 Examiner:  
For: STEEL TUBE FOR USE IN REINFORCEMENT OF  
AUTOMOBILE AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION  
THEREOF

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
(SUBMISSION CONCURRENT WITH THE  
FILING OF A NEW PATENT APPLICATION)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

February 13, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, and in fulfillment of the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, applicant(s) hereby submit(s) an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration by the Examiner.

I. LIST OF PATENTS, PUBLICATIONS, OR OTHER INFORMATION

The patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office are listed on PTO-1449, attached hereto.

II. COPIES

☒ Submitted herewith is a legible copy of (i) each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) all other information or that portion which caused it to be listed.

☒ This application is a National Phase of a PCT application. Some or all of the documents listed on the PTO-1449 are not enclosed because they were cited in the International Search Report and copies should have been forwarded from the International Search Authority pursuant to the trilateral agreement between the USPTO, EPO and JPO. If copies are needed, please contact the undersigned.

III. CONCISE EXPLANATION OF THE RELEVANCE  
(check at least one box)

a. ☒ **DOCUMENTS IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

The attached patents, publications, or other information in the English language do not require a statement of relevancy.

b. ☐ **DOCUMENTS NOT IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE**

A concise explanation of the relevance of all patents, publications, or other information listed that is not in the English language is as follows:

c. ☒ **FOREIGN SEARCH REPORT OR ACTION**

An English language version of the search report or action that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is attached, thereby satisfying the requirement for a concise explanation. See MPEP 609(A)(3).

d. ☐ **OTHER**

The following additional information is provided for the Examiner's consideration.

FEES

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the filing of a new patent application; therefore, no fee is required.

If The Examiner has any questions concerning this IDS, he/she is requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enclosures: ☐ Form PTO-1449(s)  
☐ Documents  
☐ Foreign Search Report  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_